



## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

### 1. Overview

<b>Academic Year (student cohorts covered by specification)</b>	2024-25
<b>Programme Title</b>	Epidemiology
<b>Programme Director</b>	Patrick Nguipdop-Djomo & Ian Douglas
<b>Awarding Body</b>	University of London
<b>Teaching Institution</b>	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
<b>Faculty</b>	Epidemiology and Population Health
<b>Length of Programme (months)</b>	MSc – Full time = 12 months, Part time = 24 months
<b>Entry Routes</b>	MSc
<b>Exit Routes</b>	MSc/PGDip/PGCert
<b>Award Titles</b>	MSc in Epidemiology (180 credits) Exit awards: PGDip in Epidemiology (120 credits) PGCert in Epidemiology (60 credits)
<b>Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body</b>	N/A
<b>Relevant PGT QAA Benchmark Statement and/or other external/internal reference points</b>	Consistent with the <a href="#">Framework for Higher Education Qualifications</a> at Masters level (level 7), this programme will provide students with an understanding of the conceptual basis of epidemiology and with training in essential methodological skills for the design, conduct, and analysis of epidemiological studies, and in the interpretation and communication of their results.

	See pages 28-29 at: <a href="http://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/quality-code/qualifications-frameworks.pdf?sfvrsn=170af781_14">http://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/quality-code/qualifications-frameworks.pdf?sfvrsn=170af781_14</a>
<b>Level of programme within the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)</b>	Masters (MSc) Level 7
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>CATS:</b> 180 <b>ECTS:</b> 90
<b>HECoS Code</b>	101335
<b>Mode of Delivery</b>	The programme is based at LSHTM in London and delivered by predominantly face-to-face teaching modes.
<b>Mode and Period of Study</b>	Full time (12 months) or part time/split study (max 24 months)
<b>Cohort Entry Points</b>	Annually in September
<b>Language of Study</b>	English
<b>Re-sit Policy</b>	<a href="https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/academic-manual-chapter-08a.pdf">https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/academic-manual-chapter-08a.pdf</a>
<b>Extenuating Circumstances Policy</b>	<a href="https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/academic-manual-chapter-07.pdf">https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/academic-manual-chapter-07.pdf</a>
<b>Programme Description</b>	<p>This programme equips students with the knowledge and statistical skills to make valuable contributions to medical research as well as public health in low-, middle- and high-income countries. Epidemiological methods underpin clinical medical research, public health practice and health care evaluation to investigate the causes of disease and to evaluate interventions to prevent or control disease.</p> <p>For further information, please see <a href="http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/masters/mse.html">www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/masters/mse.html</a></p>
<b>Date of Introduction of Programme</b>	September 1979. Full periodic review carried out in 2022.
<b>Date of revision of this programme specification</b>	October 2023

## 2. Programme Aims & Learning Outcomes

<b>Educational aims of the programme</b>
<p>The aim of the programme – consistent with LSHTM's mission to improve health worldwide – is to equip students with the knowledge and skills to make valuable contributions to both epidemiological research and public health. Epidemiological methods underpin clinical medical research, public health practice and health care evaluation to investigate the causes of disease, and to evaluate interventions to prevent or control disease. Epidemiology is a key discipline for understanding and improving global health. This programme covers both infectious and non-communicable disease epidemiology, and has a substantial statistical component.</p>
<b>Programme Learning Outcomes</b>
<p><b>Knowledge &amp; understanding of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the role of epidemiology and its contribution to health-related research and policy</li><li>• the main types of epidemiological studies and the key issues with their use</li></ul> <p><b>Intellectual &amp; Practical skills - able to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• design and critically appraise epidemiological studies and protocols, with consideration of the study question, study design, data collection methods, sources of bias, and appropriate statistical analyses</li><li>• manage, summarise, analyse, and present epidemiological data (using statistical software) and interpret findings appropriately given study limitations</li><li>• apply advanced epidemiological concepts and methods to specific fields (e.g. non-communicable disease epidemiology, infectious disease epidemiology, social epidemiology, spatial epidemiology, prediction modelling, clinical trials)</li></ul> <p><b>Transferable skills - able to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• use problem-solving skills in a range of situations, working individually or in a team</li><li>• design, execute, and report on a substantial independent research project</li><li>• appraise, critique and communicate health data and health research findings</li><li>• manage their own learning, including working effectively to deadlines</li></ul>
<b>Teaching and Learning Strategy</b>

The programme is taught through a variety of teaching methods including: lectures, small group seminars, pen-and-paper and computer practicals, and group work with peers. All elements of the programme have specific intended learning outcomes, with content designed to help students achieve these outcomes. Students are expected to learn through both directed and self-directed study.

### **Assessment Strategy**

The programme is assessed through individual module assessments (which may include essays, other written coursework, short written exams, practical exams, group work, presentations or other methods), a formal summer exam, and a project report. Such tasks are designed to assess, via the most appropriate method, whether learning outcomes have been achieved.

### **3. Programme Structure and features, modules, credit assignment and award requirements**

<b>Full-time Masters</b>	<b>Term 1</b>	<b>Term 2</b>	<b>Term 3</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>
Compulsory Modules	5	2	0	90
Recommended Modules	0	2	1	45
Projects			1	45

Module information is correct at the time of publication, but minor amendments may be made subject to approval as detailed in [Chapter 3 of the LSHTM Academic Manual](#). Optional (i.e. recommended non-compulsory) modules listed are indicative and may change from year to year.

<https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/courses/changes-courses>

<b>Term</b>	<b>Slot</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Module Type (compulsory or recommended)</b>	<b>Credits (CATS)</b>
1	AB1	2033	Clinical Trials	Compulsory	10
1	AB1	2056	Epidemiology in Practice	Compulsory	15
1	AB1	2007	Extended Epidemiology	Compulsory	15
1	B1	2484	Epidemiology and -omics	Compulsory	5
1	AB1	2021	Statistics for EPH	Compulsory	15
2	C1	2400	Study Design: Writing a Study Proposal	Compulsory	15
2	C2	2402	Statistical Methods in Epidemiology	Compulsory	15
2	D1	2407	Epidemiology of Non-Communicable Diseases	Recommended	15
2	D1	2464	Modelling & the Dynamics of Infectious Diseases	Recommended	15

2	D1	2472	Social Epidemiology	Recommended	15
2	D1	3135	Spatial Epidemiology in Public Health	Recommended	15
2	D2	1301	Environmental Epidemiology	Recommended	15
2	D2	2437	Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases	Recommended	15
2	D2	2493	Analysis of Electronic Health Record Data	Recommended	15
3	E	2412	Advanced Statistical Methods in Epidemiology	Recommended	15

## Contact Time

Student contact time refers to the tutor-mediated time allocated to teaching, provision of guidance and feedback to students. This time includes activities that take place in face-to-face contexts such as on-campus lectures, seminars, demonstrations, tutorials, supervised laboratory workshops, practical classes, project supervision and external fieldwork or visits, as well as where tutors are available for one-to-one discussions and interaction by email. Module contact time will be defined in the individual module specifications and provided to students at the start of their programme.

This definition is based on the one provided by the [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education \(QAA\) Explaining contact hours \(2011\)](#). Student contact time, together with time allocated for independent study and assessment, determines the total student study hours for a module or programme. Although there are separate hours allocated for each of these activities, they should always be clearly linked together to support effective learning. The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) defines high quality contact time as structured, focused, purposeful and interactive.

## 4: Entry Requirements

Please refer to the programme's entry requirements [here](#).